IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Confirmation No.: 4029

Applicants : Takanori SAITO, et al.

U.S. Serial No. : 10/551,033

Filed : September 27, 2005

Examiner : Gregory A. Wilson

Group Art Unit : 3749

For : THERMAL PROCESSING METHOD AND

THERMAL PROCESSING UNIT

AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO RULE 111

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action issued March 19, 2008, please amend the aboveidentified application as set forth below and consider the following remarks.

Amendments to the claims begin at p. 2.

Remarks begin at page 5.